

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**AGENCY:** ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

**TITLE:** ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL STUDENT INTERN PROGRAM

**ACTION:** Request for Applications (RFA) - Questions and Answers

**RFA NO.:** LV-OAR-RIEL-04-13

**CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA) NO.:** 66.607

**SUMMARY:** The following are the Agency's response to questions/comments regarding the solicitation.

**1. Question: Who is eligible to apply? Can individuals apply?**

Proposals will only be accepted from accredited four year educational institutions. Under this solicitation, individuals are not considered eligible entities.

**2. Question: Can academic institutions outside of the Las Vegas, NV area qualify for this grant - in light of the Evaluation Criterion regarding the applicant's physical location?**

Any accredited academic institution can submit a proposal in response to this solicitation. However, proximity to the EPA Laboratory in Las Vegas is an evaluation factor since it would allow student interns to complete work assignments during the academic school year as well as the summer. It is also important to point out that this solicitation does not authorize expenses related to the relocation, travel or housing of an intern.

**3. Question: Will EPA have a preference for a proposal from the local university in Las Vegas, NV since they are close to the EPA Radiation and Indoor Environments Lab?**

EPA endorses full and open competition. In terms of this particular solicitation, we do not have a preference for a proposal from local universities or colleges, however, given the nature of the proposed student intern program, the physical location of proposed applicants is considered as one of several evaluative criterion.

**4. Question: How much time will an intern be able to spend working at the recipient organization and does the work at the recipient organization have to be related to radiation? Will the recipient organization be able to solicit and hire its own choice of interns?**

The recipient will be expected to solicit and hire its own choice of interns while keeping in mind that specific internships will be offered in response to EPA/R&IE approved internship opportunities and, as a cooperative agreement, there will be substantial involvement between the

EPA Project Officer and the selected applicant. In terms of hiring interns, the recipient is responsible for selecting an intern while considering EPA's advice and input on the "fit" between a proposed intern's qualifications and the particular internship opportunity.

EPA anticipates that interns will be physically working at the EPA laboratory for the duration of the project. Expenses related to an intern working at the recipient organization without an approved EPA internship opportunity are not allowable costs.